

Serial No.: 09/683,769
Confirmation No.: 7865
Applicant: DANIELSSON, Mats *et al.*
Atty. Ref.: 06730.0008.NPUS01

REMARKS:

REMARKS REGARDING CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND EXAMINER'S REJECTIONS:

Claims 1-3 and 6 have been amended and claims 4 and 5 cancelled.

IN RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION:

FIRST REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gur *et al.* (US 4203037) in view of Edic *et al.* (US 6175609).

Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above rejection of the claims in view of the following:

Both independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended to clarify that the displacement of the beam collimator arrangement between the first and second positions is both vertical and horizontal (i.e. at least two dimensional). It is clear that Gur ' 037 (see especially Figs. 1 and 1a) has two collimator means 10 and 12 that longitudinally translate together (i.e. in one dimension only). Moreover, there is no teaching, suggestion or disclosure supporting the combination of Gur ' 037 with any reference that would include both vertical and horizontal motion.

A similar finding is made in Edic *et al.* '609 where one dimensional collimator movement is disclosed at col. 2, lines 33-52:

Collimator 76 is configured to move relative to detector array 74 and includes a collimator plate 84 fabricated from x-ray attenuating material and having a plurality of slits, or openings, 86 therein. . . Collimator plate 84 is movable in the z-direction between first and second positions. Collimator manipulator 110 is configured (for example, with electromechanical devices such as motors coupled to drive the collimator plate along tracks aligned with collimator plate axis 130) between a first position 10, a plurality of intermediate positions 15 (illustrated in FIG. 3 as a region in which the collimator plate 84 at least partially overlies the detector array 74), and a second position 20.

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Therefore, in view of the descriptions found in both Gur ' 037 and Edic *et al.* '609 there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion either singly, or in combination, of a vertically and horizontally displaced collimator as presently claimed.

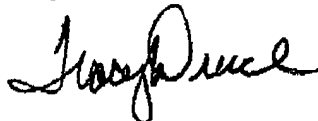
Given the above, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that the Examiner indicate the allowance of the claims in the next paper from the Office.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing Order No. 06730.0008.NPUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,



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